# Ecclesiology

## Session 26




Dr. Andy Woods

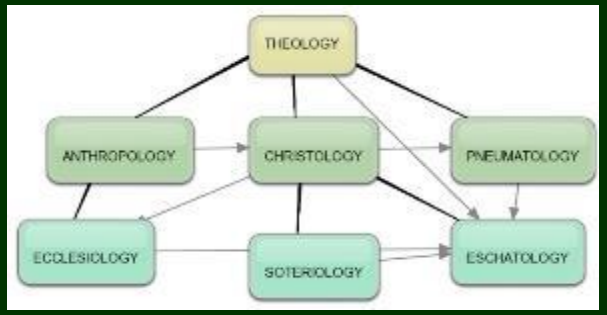
Senior Pastor – Sugar Land Bible Church

President – Chafer Theological Seminary

# Areas of Systematic Theology

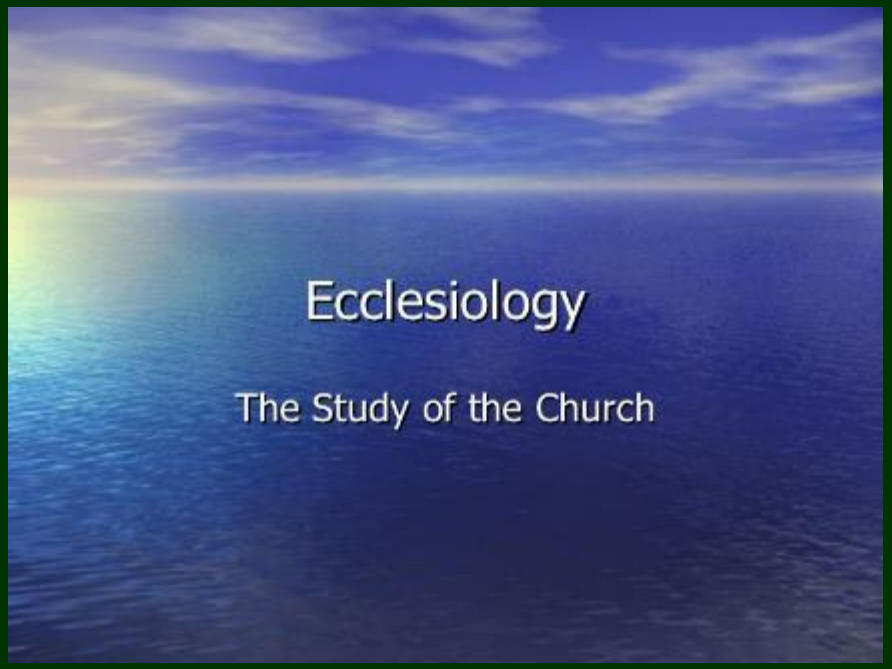



- Prolegomena – Introduction
- Theology – Study of God
- Christology – Study of Christ
- Pneumatology – Study of the Holy Spirit
- Anthropology – Study of Man
- Hamartiology – Study of sin
- Soteriology – Study of salvation
- Angelology – Study of angels
- **Ecclesiology – Study of the Church**
- Eschatology – Study of the end



# Ecclesiology Overview

I. Definition
II. Universal vs. local
III. Word pictures
IV. Origin
V. Israel – Church differences
VI. Intercalation
**VII. Purposes**
VIII. Activities
IX. Government
X. Officers
XI. Ordinances
XII. Purity



# VII. Purposes of the Local Church



- Glorify God (Eph 3:21)
- Edify the saints (Eph 4:11-16)
- Fulfill the Great Commission (Matt 28:18-20)

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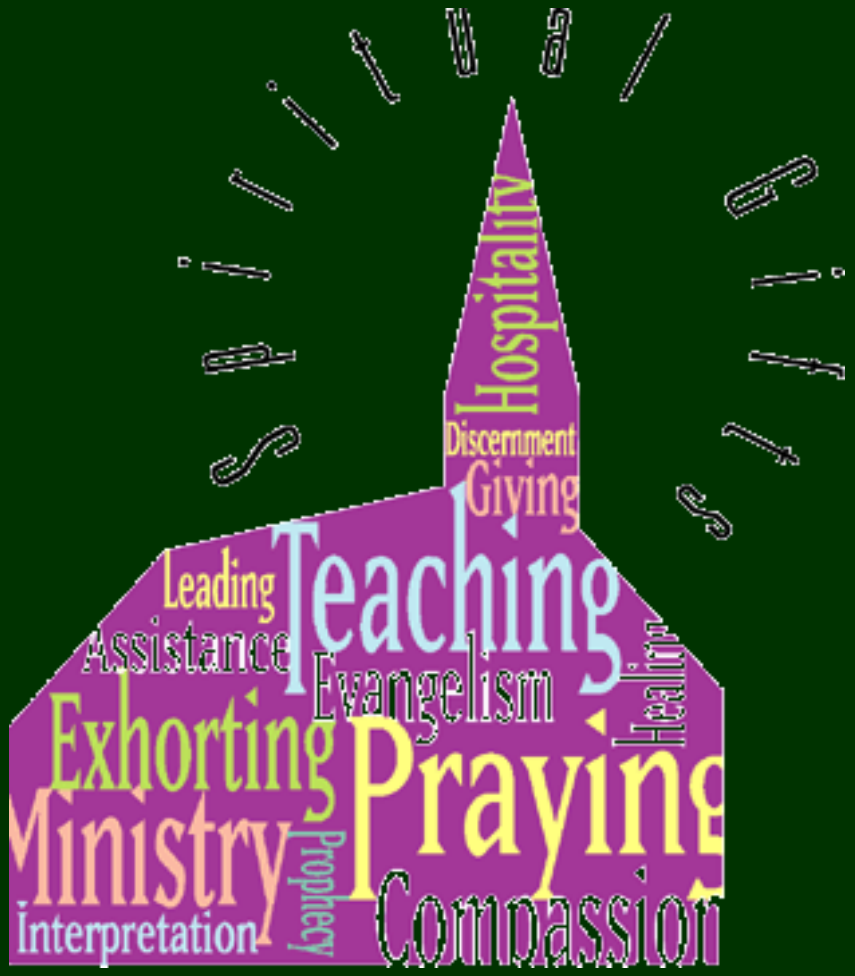
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- **Edify the saints (Eph 4:11-16)**
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# Ephesians 4:11-16

“11 And He gave **some** as **apostles**, and some as **prophets**, and some as **evangelists**, and some as **pastors and teachers**, 12 for the **equipping** of the **saints** for the **work of service**, to the **building up** of the body of Christ;”



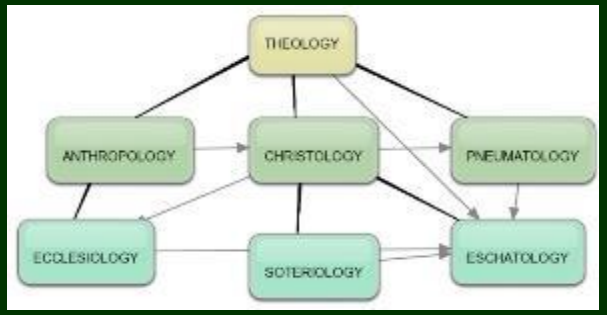
# Spiritual Gifts



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# Four Questions

1. What are some general observations about spiritual gifts?
2. Are all the spiritual gifts for today?
3. What are the spiritual gifts?
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# The Case for Selective Cessationism

I. Preliminary thoughts

II. Four categories of gifts
   A. Foundational (Eph 2:20)
   B. Confirmatory (Heb 2:3-4)
   C. Revelatory (Jude 3)
   D. Edificatory gifts continue (Eph. 4:11-16)



III. Church history and selective cessationism

IV. Proper operation of the Sign & Revelatory gifts

V. True source of the charismatic movement

VI. Explanation of the Charismatic movement's popularity

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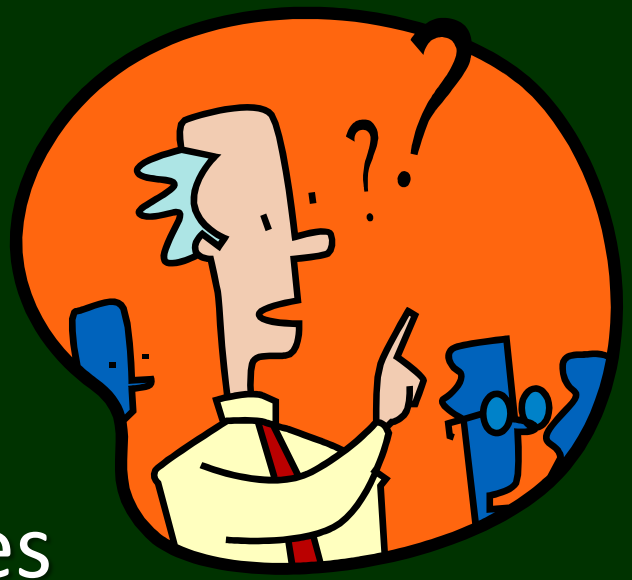
# 12/12/4/4

- Romans 12
- 1 Corinthians 12
- 1 Peter 4
- Ephesians 4



# The 7 Disputed Gifts

1. Apostle
2. Prophet
3. Worker of Miracles
4. Tongues
5. Interpretation of tongues
6. Healing
7. Knowledge



# Two Camps

1. **Charismatics** – All the spiritual gifts are in operation today

2. **Cessationists** (selective)– Most of the spiritual gifts are in operation today



# Preamble to Position Statements of SLBC Constitution

"Although agreement with the **POSITION STATEMENTS is** not required for membership, they are taught in this church. The **POSITION STATEMENTS are not meant to prohibit** honest and healthy discussions concerning what the Bible teaches about these issues; however, we believe that such discussions must be conducted under the guiding principle that believers are to strive to maintain unity."

# SLBC Position Statement No. 7

**"TEMPORARY SPIRITUAL GIFTS** – This church teaches that the miraculous sign gifts, including the gift of tongues, (always the ability to speak in a previously unlearned, known language) along with the gift of healings were temporal gifts, given by the Holy Spirit solely to authenticate both the apostles and their message before the close of the canon of Scripture (1 Cor. 13:8-10). We do not believe that these are active as gifts today. However, we affirm that God is sovereign and may heal and/or give someone the ability to speak in a tongue (foreign language) today. We believe that the majority of what is termed 'miraculous' within the contemporary charismatic movement is something other than the Biblical gifts of tongues or healing."

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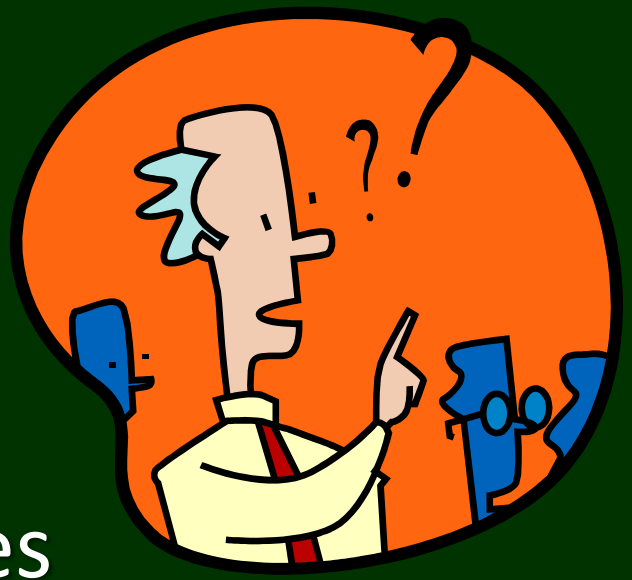
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# Ephesians 2:20

"having been built on the foundation of the **apostles and prophets**, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner *stone*,"



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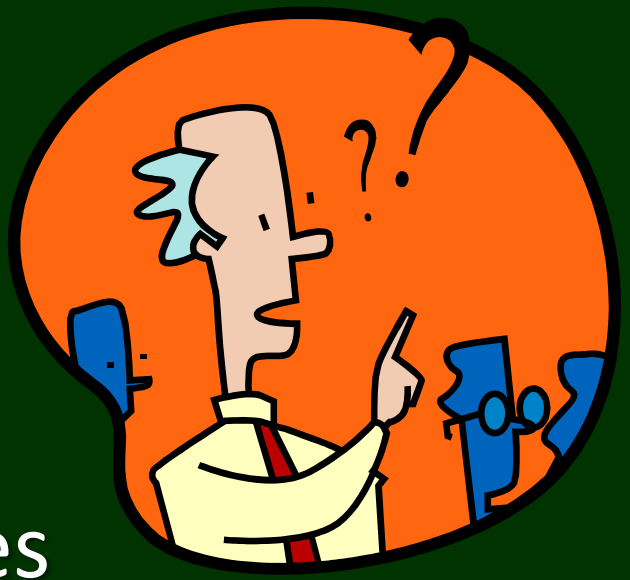
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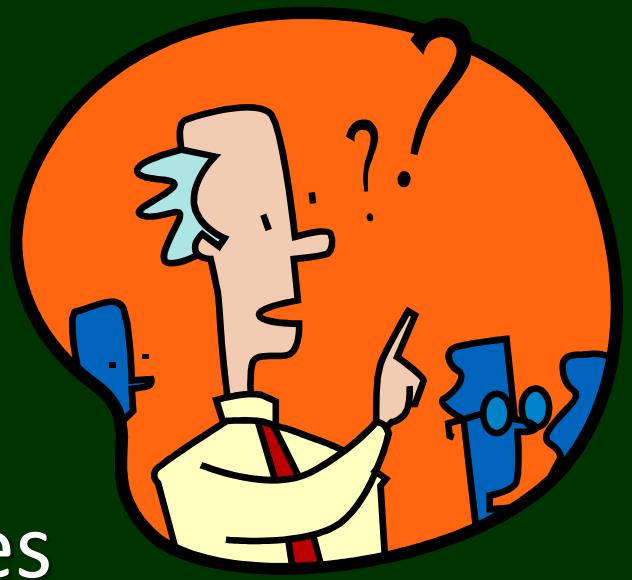


# Miracle Clusters In Scripture

| NUM. | ERA | AUTHENTICATION |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | Moses | Law |
| 2. | Joshua | Conquest |
| 3. | Elijah-Elisha | Prophet |
| 4. | Christ | Kingdom offer |
| 5. | Apostles | Church |
| 6. | Tribulation & Millennium | Kingdom establishment |

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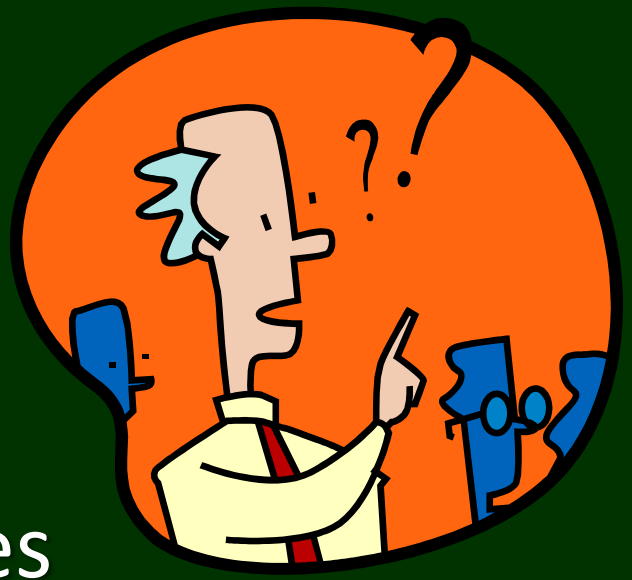
# Acts 2:43

"Everyone kept feeling a sense of awe; and many **wonders** and **signs** were taking place through the **apostles**."



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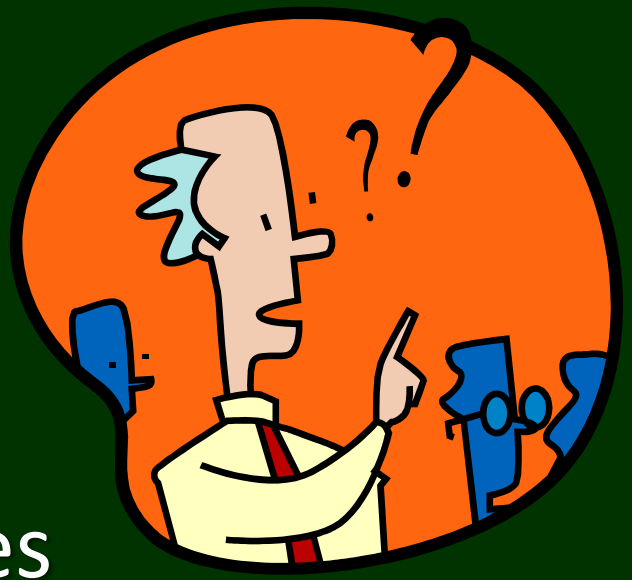
# 1 Corinthians 14:21-22

"[21] In the Law it is written, 'BY MEN OF STRANGE TONGUES AND BY THE LIPS OF STRANGERS I WILL SPEAK TO THIS PEOPLE, AND EVEN SO THEY WILL NOT LISTEN TO ME,' says the Lord. [22] **So then tongues are for a sign, not to those who believe but to unbelievers**; but prophecy *is for a sign*, not to unbelievers but to those who believe."



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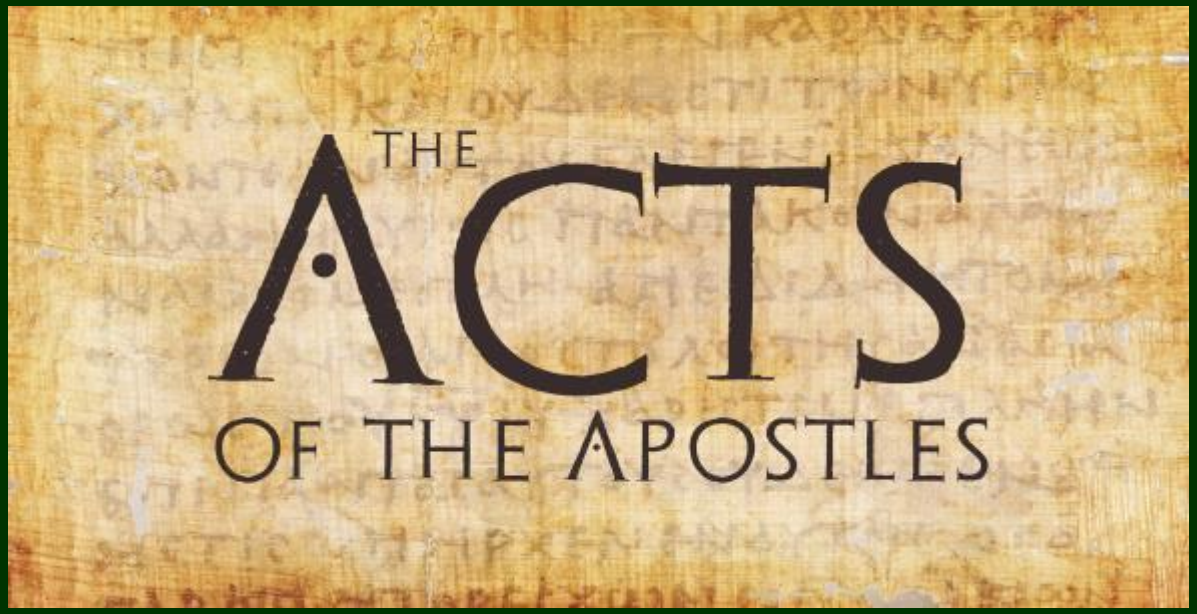
# Acts 5:12, 15-16

“12 At the hands of the **apostles** many **signs** and wonders were taking place among the people; and they were all with one accord in Solomon’s portico…15 to such an extent that they even carried the sick out into the streets and laid them on cots and pallets, so that when Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on any one of them. 16 Also the people from the cities in the vicinity of Jerusalem were coming together, bringing people who were sick or afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all being **healed**.”



# Acts 3:1-10

1. No prayer
2. No faith
3. Indirect
4. By an apostle
5. Instantaneous
6. Automatic
7. Undeniable
8. No geographical barriers
9. Spontaneous
10. Common
11. Universal



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# James 5:14-15

“14 Is anyone among you sick? Then he must call for the elders of the church and they are to pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; 15 and the prayer offered in faith will restore the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up, and if he has committed sins, they will be forgiven him.”



| APOSTOLIC GIFT OF HEALING | HEALING TODAY |
| --- | --- |
| No prayer | Prayer |
| Indirect | Direct |
| Apostles | Physicians |
| Instantaneous | Gradual |
| Common | Less common |
| Automatic | Non-automatic |

# Automatic Healing Today?

1. Scripture – Gal. 4:13; 2 Cor. 12:7-9; 1 Tim. 5:23; 2 Tim. 4:20
2. False guilt
3. False view of God
4. Sickness is sometimes caused by sin – John 5:14; 1 Cor. 11:30
5. Sickness is not always caused by sin – Job 1:1-2, 5; 2:7-8; Ps. 34:19
6. Theology of suffering
7. Healing is only guaranteed (Isa. 53:4; 1 Pet. 2:24-25) in the Eternal State – Rom. 8:22-23; Isa. 65:20; Rev. 21:4

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# Galatians 4:13-14

"[13] but you know that it was because of a **bodily illness** that I preached the gospel to you the first time; [14] and that which was a trial to you in **my bodily condition** you did not despise or loathe, but you received me as an angel of God, as Christ Jesus *Himself*."



# 1 Timothy 5:23

"No longer drink water *exclusively*, but use a little wine for the sake of your stomach and your frequent ailments."



# 2 Timothy 4:20

"Erastus remained at Corinth, but Trophimus I left sick at Miletus."



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# Theology of Suffering

1. Sympathy – 2 Cor. 1:3-4
2. Christ-like character – Jas. 1:2-4
3. Testimony to unbelievers – John 11:4; 12:10-11
4. Dependence upon God – Deut. 6:10-12; 8:3; 2 Cor. 12:6-9
5. Prayer – Acts 12:5

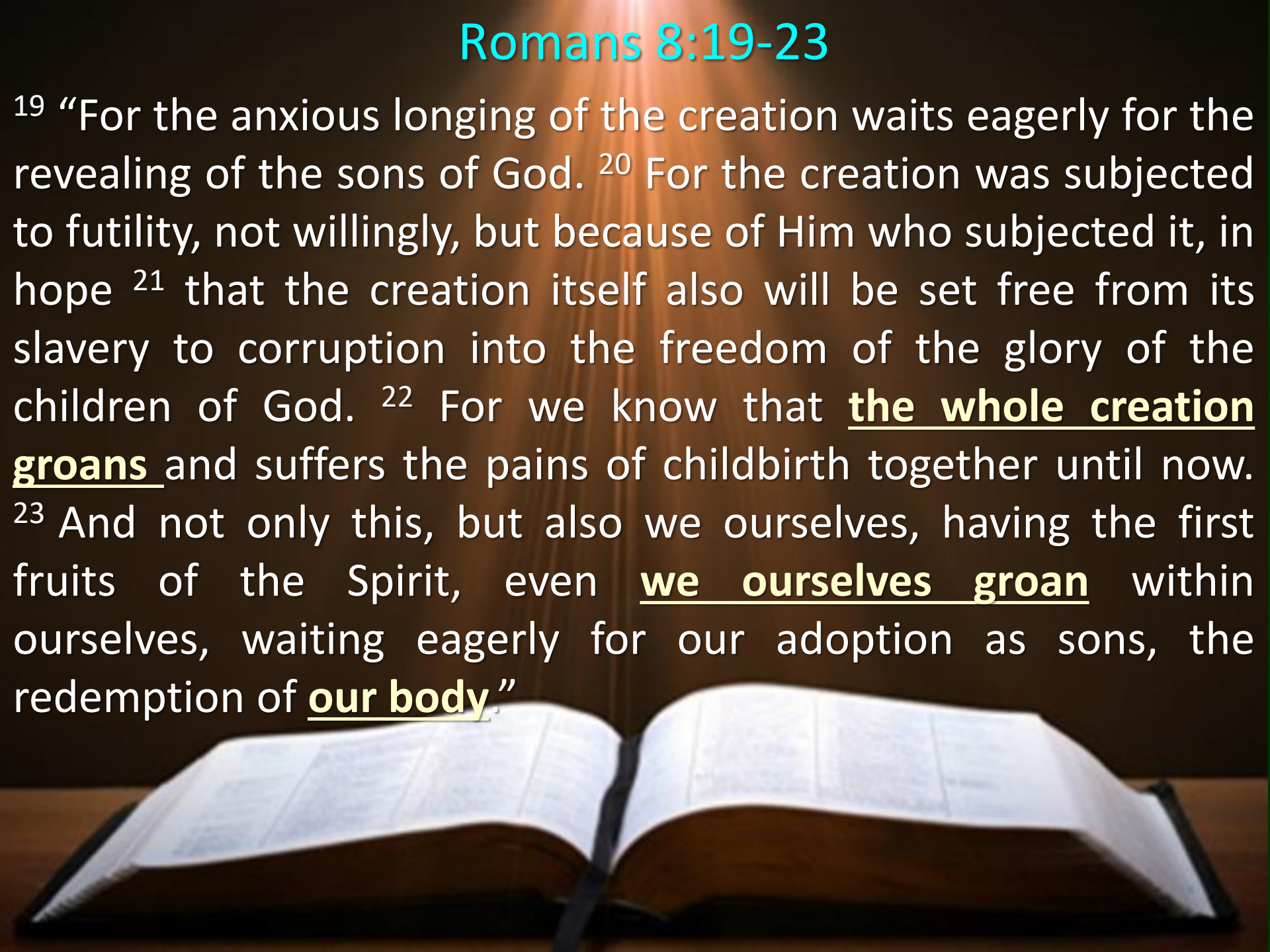
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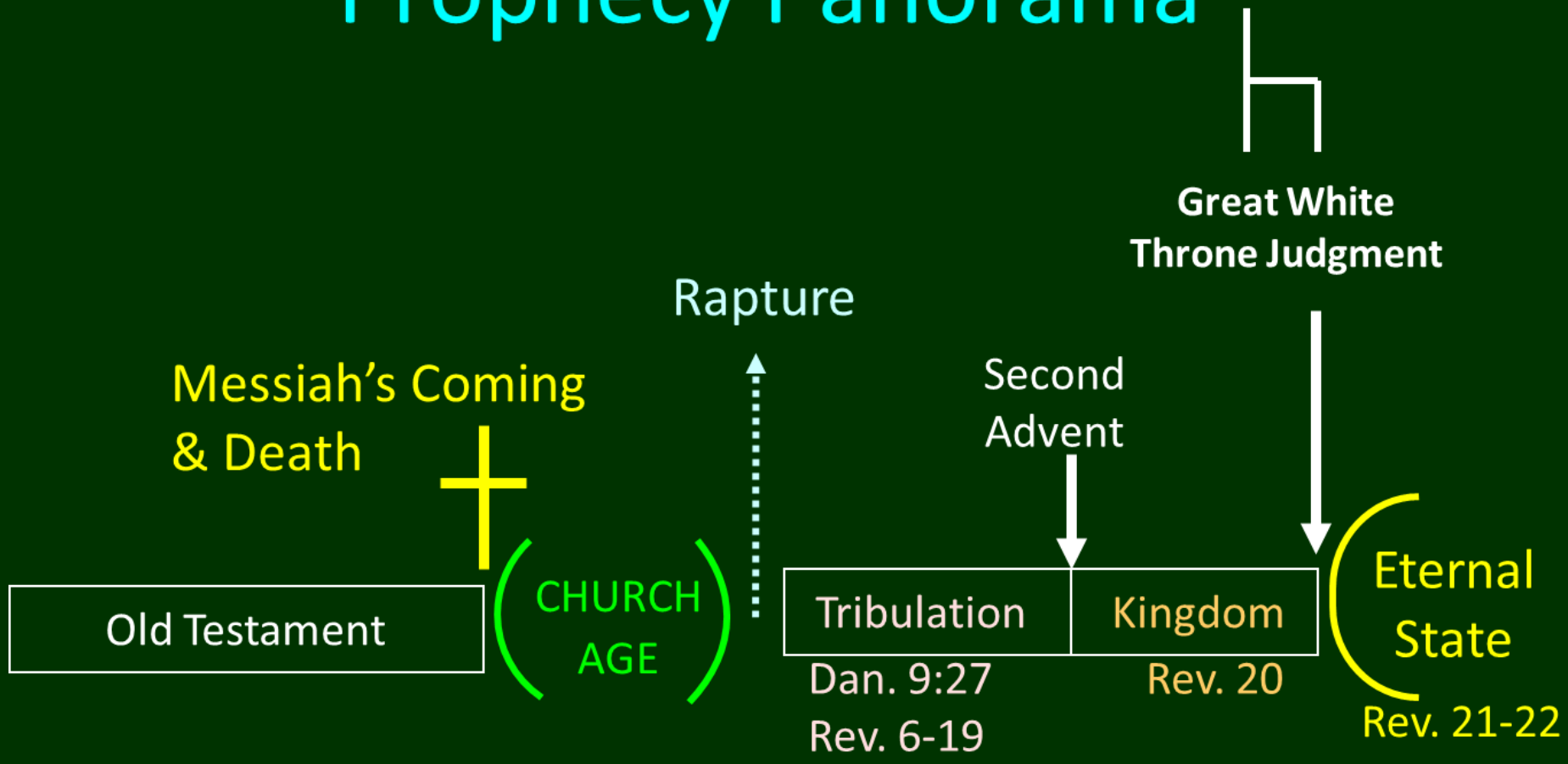


# Romans 8:19-23

19 “For the anxious longing of the creation waits eagerly for the revealing of the sons of God. 20 For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it, in hope 21 that the creation itself also will be set free from its slavery to corruption into the freedom of the glory of the children of God. 22 For we know that **the whole creation groans** and suffers the pains of childbirth together until now. 23 And not only this, but also we ourselves, having the first fruits of the Spirit, even **we ourselves groan** within ourselves, waiting eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of **our body**.”



# Prophecy Panorama



# Millennium and Eternal State

| Millennium Rev.20 | Eternal State Rev.21-22 |
|---|---|
| Sin restrained | Sin removed |
| Curse restrained | Curse removed |
| Death | No death |
| Mortals / resurrected | Resurrected only |
| Destinies undecided | Destinies sealed |
| Renovation | Recreation |
| Temporary | Eternal |
| Transitional | Non-transitional |

# Millennium and Eternal State

| | Millennium | Eternal State |
|---|---|---|
| Passage | Rev 20:1-10 | Rev 21–22 |
| Time | 20:4 | 22:5 |
| Luminaries | Isa 30:26 | 21:23; 22:5 |
| Temple | Ezek 40–48 | 21:22 |
| Death | Isa 65:20 | 21:4 |
| Satanic activity | 20:7 | 20:10 |
| Rebellion | 20:8-9 | 21:27 |

# Revelation 21:4

"and He will wipe away every **tear** from their eyes; and there will no longer be any **death**; there will no longer be any **mourning**, or **crying**, or **pain**; the **first things** have passed away."



# The Case for Selective Cessationism

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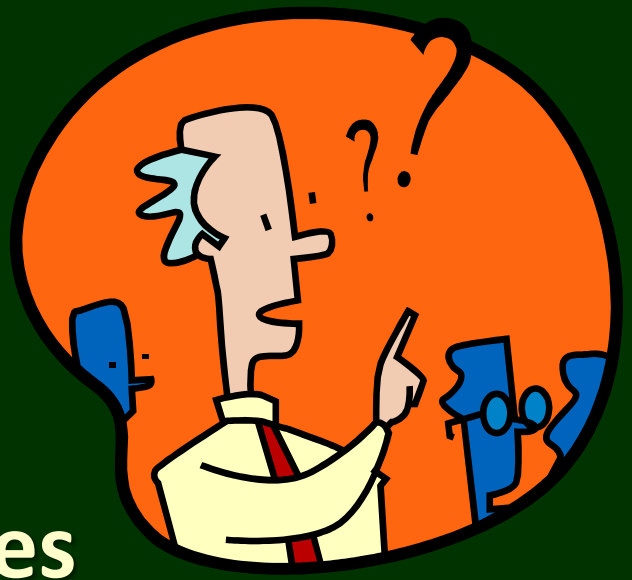
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2. **Prophet**
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5. **Interpretation of tongues**
6. Healing
7. **Knowledge**



# The Revelatory Gifts

1. Prophet (Deut. 18:18; 2 Pet. 1:20-21; Eph. 3:5; 1 Cor. 14:29-30; Acts 11:28; 21:10-11)
2. Knowledge (1 Cor. 13:2, 8-9; 14:6)
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# 1 Corinthians 13:8-10

“8 Love never fails; but if there are gifts of **prophecy**, they will be done away; if there are **tongues**, they will cease; if there is **knowledge**, it will be done away. 9 For we know in part and we prophesy in part; 10 but when the perfect comes, the partial will be done away.”



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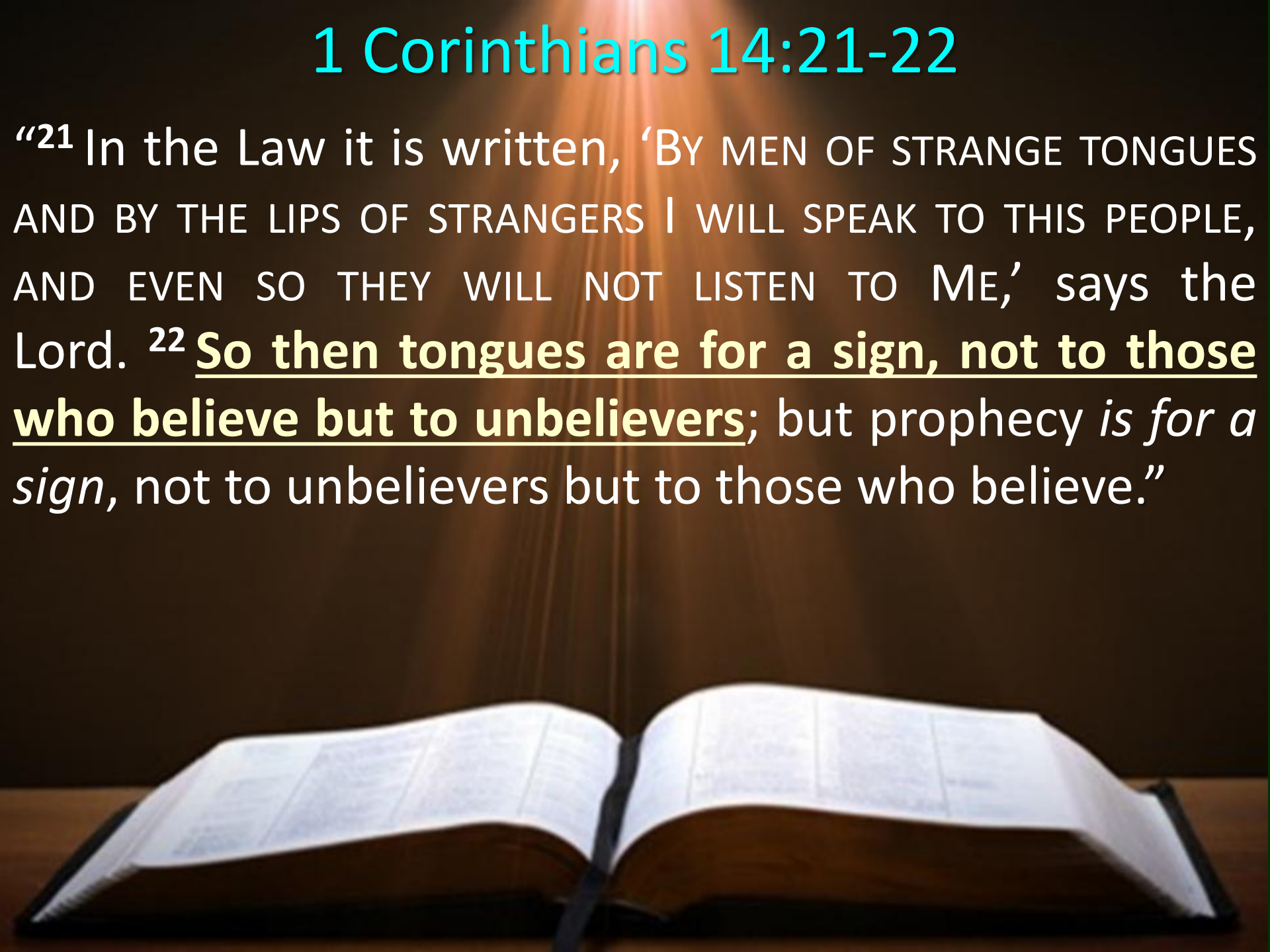
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# Spiritual Gifts
## (1 Corinthians 12–14)

1. Unity (1:11; 3:22; 6; 8–10; 11:18-19; 12:25; 15:12)
2. Corinthians 12–14
    a. Many gifts for use in one Body-1 Cor. 12
    b. The needed emphasis of Love-1 Cor. 13
    c. Priority and Order-1 Cor. 14

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1. Necessity of love (13:1-3)
2. Nature of love (13:4-7)
3. Endurance of love (13:8-13)

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# 1 Corinthians 13:11-13

“11 When I was a child, I used to speak like a child,
think like a child, reason like a child; when I
became a man, I did away with childish
things. 12 For now we see in a mirror dimly, but
then face to face; now I know in part, but then I
will know fully just as I also have been fully
known. 13 But now faith, hope, love, abide these
three; but the greatest of these is love.”



# Endurance of Love Emphasis
## (1 Cor. 13:8-13)

a. Unlike Love, the revelatory gifts will cease (8-10)

b. Two illustrations (11-12)

    a. Immaturity to maturity (11)

    b. Limited to full sight (12)

c. Unlike love, Faith and Hope will cease (13)

# 1 Corinthians 13:8-10

“8 Love never fails; but if there are gifts of **prophecy**, they will be done away; if there are **tongues**, they will cease; if there is **knowledge**, it will be done away. 9 For we know in part and we prophesy in part; 10 but when **the perfect *[teleios]*** comes, the partial will be done away.”



# Three Interpretations of “The Perfect” [teleios] in 1 Cor. 13:10

1. Eschaton or End
2. Maturity of the Church
3. Completion of the NT canon

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# SLBC Position Statement No. 7

**"TEMPORARY SPIRITUAL GIFTS** – This church teaches that the miraculous sign gifts, including the gift of tongues, (always the ability to speak in a previously unlearned, known language) along with the gift of healings were temporal gifts, given by the Holy Spirit solely to authenticate both the apostles and their message **before the close of the canon of Scripture (1 Cor. 13:8-10).** We do not believe that these are active as gifts today. However, we affirm that God is sovereign and may heal and/or give someone the ability to speak in a tongue (foreign language) today. We believe that the majority of what is termed 'miraculous' within the contemporary charismatic movement is something other than the Biblical gifts of tongues or healing."



# D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones

D. Martyn Lloyd Jones, *Prove All Things*, ed. Christopher Catherwood (Eastbourne, England: Kingsway, 1985), 32–33.

"It means that you and I, who have the Scriptures open before us, know much more than the apostle Paul of Gods truth...It means that we are altogether superior...even to the apostles themselves, including the apostle Paul! It means that we are now in a position which . . . 'we know, even as we are known' by God . . . indeed, there is only one word to describe such a view, it is nonsense."

# Conclusion

# Ecclesiology Overview

I. Definition
II. Universal vs. local
III. Word pictures
IV. Origin
V. Israel – Church differences
VI. Intercalation
VII. Purposes
**VIII. Activities**
IX. Government
X. Officers
XI. Ordinances
XII. Purity

